

# VESTRY REPORT

*For the year ending December 31, 2019*



Annual Vestry Meeting  
February 23, 2020

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## Bishop's Pastoral Letter to Vestries, 2020



Diocese of Toronto  
Anglican Church of Canada

To our Clergy, Churchwardens and Parishioners

Beloved in Christ, peace and grace be with you.

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit...” These words from the Gospel of John, chapter 15, were spoken by Jesus to his disciples at the Last Supper. They are tender - words spoken in the shadow of the cross to disciples who would become the Church. John 15 was also the centerpiece text for my charge to Synod in November 2019. If you have not had a chance to watch it, I invite you to [consider doing so](#). The imagery of the vine, the grower, and pruning for growth form the roots of the Priorities and Plans of the Diocese for the next two years, as they have done for our strategic plan *Growing in Christ* beginning in 2016.

Recently at a meeting I was asked by a lay member of Diocesan Council, “Bishop, what is your vision for the Diocese? In a word or two what do you want us to do?”

And I said, “Simple...Grow!”

At its root the strategic plan calls us to “grow” in Christ. What does this mean, to grow in Christ?

It means, that in all that we do, whether in our parishes, outreach ministries, diocesan ministries, chaplaincies and communities, we are summoned to flourish; in number, in maturity of faith, in our life of prayer and worship, in our leadership, in our embrace of a mission that calls us to move beyond the walls of the Church. To grow in Christ means to trust the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. To grow in Christ means that we sometimes have to let go of old structures and ways of doing things that keep us from taking the risks necessary to pursue the One we pledge to follow - Jesus.

Vestry provides one moment for every congregation to consider the challenge to grow in Christ. No matter the size of the community, no matter how large or small the budget, no matter the number of lay leaders or clergy, no matter the obstacles to balancing a budget...Are we doing all that we can to grow in our faith in Jesus Christ? What is one thing that we can do to deepen our discipleship? What is one thing that we can do to serve the needs of our neighbours? What is one thing that we can do to strengthen the bonds of affection that we have for each other?

Each year at vestry we ask you to consider supporting a social justice initiative through a particular motion. In the past we have asked vestries to consider addressing issues of poverty, raising the minimum wage and affordable housing. In 2020, we are asking you consider being good stewards of creation as we grapple with the growing climate emergency. We invite you to consider setting a goal to reduce our collective carbon footprint.

Sometimes we can focus only on what we don't have at our annual vestry meetings, not enough money, not enough time, not enough people, not enough... Sometimes we can spend too much time only thinking about how on earth we are going to balance the budget. That's not to say that balancing the budget isn't important...it is. Rather, consider the words of Jesus in John 15. In the face of a future that doesn't always seem very clear, lift up your hearts. Reach out and grow in Christ.

Yours in Christ,

+Andrew

The Rt. Rev. Andrew J. Asbil  
Bishop of Toronto

The Right Reverend  
KEVIN ROBERTSON

Area Bishop of York-Scarborough  
Bishop Suffragan of Toronto



Diocese of Toronto  
Anglican Church of Canada

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January 25, 2020

The Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul

Dear friends in York-Scarborough,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Cor. 1:2)

I have the privilege of writing once again as you gather for your annual Vestry meeting. Vestry is an important moment in the life of any parish. We are given the opportunity to look back with thanksgiving on the past year, and look forward with hope as we catch a vision of what God is calling us to be in the year ahead.

As I look back on 2019, I remember with joy and thanksgiving the opportunities to visit many of the 58 parishes and ministries of York-Scarborough. I was with you for Sunday worship, ordinations, confirmations, celebrations of new ministry, anniversaries, meetings with parish leadership, and many wonderful meals and receptions. I want to thank the clergy and people of the area for the warm welcome as I have travelled across the five deaneries of York-Scarborough. I have been grateful for your prayers, and your desire to be co-workers in the building up of God's Church.

One of the priorities I have identified over my three years as your bishop is being more intentional about mission. I often preach about the mission of the Church, grounding it in our baptismal promises. I am so pleased to report that there are now over two dozen parishes in York-Scarborough that have developed Mission Action Plans (MAPs) and have begun to implement them. Others are on the way. In 2019, the York-Scarborough Area Council set aside \$20,000 to assist parishes with the MAP process. Please consider applying for these funds through the Area Council.

As I look forward to the coming year, I want us to be people of hope. The statistical data about the Anglican Church of Canada released late last year paints a bleak picture. Yet my experience of being out and about in the parishes of York-Scarborough is that there is renewed energy, passion for the Gospel, and a commitment to try new things. We are not dead! Every time we celebrate a baptism, or welcome a newcomer, or allow the transforming love of Christ to work through us into the world, we are reminded that our Church is very much alive. I don't want us to live in denial about the realities around us, but I do want us to embody the living hope that is at the core of the Gospel. Please join with me in being agents of hope and positive change in our Church and in our world.

As I reflect on my ministry over the past year, I realize that my work would not have been possible without the support of my amazing assistant, Sue Willoughby. Sue does a great job of managing my calendar and correspondence, and ensuring that I am able to keep up with a ministry that has many moving parts. Sue works closely with our exceptional synod office staff. They are all just a phone call or email away.

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MISSION: To worship God and proclaim Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and to embody—in word and action—God's reconciling love, justice, compassion and liberation—through which knowledge of God's reign is extended.



Diocese of Toronto  
Anglican Church of Canada

I want to acknowledge the excellent work of our five Regional Deans: the Reverend Ian LaFleur (Eglinton), the Reverend Greg Carpenter (Scarborough), the Reverend Sherman Hesselgrave (St. James), the Reverend Shelley McVea (Toronto East) and the Reverend Lisa Newland (York Mills). The Reverend Heather Gwynne-Timothy became the Chaplain to the Retired Clergy of York-Scarborough in 2019, and I am so grateful for her ministry. Along with our area liturgical officers – the Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine and the Reverend Greg Carpenter – our Regional Deans are excellent resources for parishes, and provide me with invaluable advice.

Our episcopal area is also blessed with many incredible youth leaders, who are ably led by our two York-Scarborough Youth Coordinators, Jillian Ruch and Ian Physick. Just a few weeks ago, I attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual York-Scarborough Youth Leaders' Summit, where those involved in this important ministry were able to share ideas and strategies for ministry with our youth.

In our Diocese, we are blessed with a College of Bishops, with whom the joys and burdens of episcopal ministry are shared. I am grateful to work alongside my colleagues: Bishops Andrew Asbil, Peter Fenty, Riscylla Shaw, Jenny Andison, and Canon Mary Conliffe.

Finally, I want to express my thanks to all those who exercise leadership in the parishes, missions, schools, fresh expressions and community ministries of the York-Scarborough area. Whether you are stepping down from a particular ministry, or continuing on, or taking up a new role at this annual Vestry meeting, thank you for your commitment and faithfulness. You are a blessing to the Church in our Diocese. Please be assured of my prayers each day as you carry out your ministry in the name of Jesus Christ.

I am writing this letter on the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul. As our Church celebrates the beginning of Paul's evangelistic ministry to the Gentiles, please join with me in praying and working for the proclamation of the Gospel in every place, and for the renewal of the Church in our midst.

Yours faithfully,

The Right Rev Kevin Robertson  
Area Bishop of York Scarborough  
Bishop Suffragan of Toronto

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Mission: To worship God and proclaim Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and to embody—in word and action—  
God's reconciling love, justice, compassion and liberation—through which knowledge of God's reign is extended.



On January 1, 2020 we awoke to the dire claim in *The Anglican Journal* (our national newspaper) that the Anglican Church in Canada could disappear by 2040 – a mere 20 years from now. That is a frightening thought, accompanied by a great deal of handwringing. However, as I read the articles, it was clear that this news is not and should not be the greatest concern for us. Our greatest challenge is to keep alive our passion for the faith and our devotion to Christ, *in spite* of what the pundits have to say about declining numbers, dwindling funds and our imminent demise.

Our new Primate, The Most Reverend Linda Nicholls said she hoped that instead of trying to figure out why the church was in numerical decline, or get drawn into a “vortex of negativity” about it, Canadian Anglicans would instead focus on the church’s calling. “I think we’re being tested about perseverance, endurance, creativity in the coming years,” she said. “At the end of the day, when we stand before the great judgement seat and have to answer for how we lived our lives as Christians, I think the question that will be asked is, ‘Were you faithful with what you were given?’” She also encouraged us to go beyond anxiety and ask ourselves “Where do we see Jesus and how can we be a part of that? And how can we be open and generous in our expression of the Good News?” Nicholls also said she was hopeful to see “green shoots” of growth in various areas around the country—some in the church’s traditional ways of being and some in its new ways of expressing itself. (The Most Rev. Linda Nicholls, *The Anglican Journal*, January 1, 2020)

I am convinced that Christ Church Deer Park is one of those “green shoots of growth”. We have had an illustrious 150-year history at Yonge and St. Clair and our desire to continue into the future as a vibrant Church has spurred us on to intentionally chart our future with Christ. 2019 was a year brimming with activity and excitement for the future. Christ Church Deer Park is a community eager to grow in faith and in numbers, and we worked hard at it. Throughout the year we endeavoured to creatively engage in ministry that helped develop our faith and attract others to the Gospel of Christ... while having fun doing it!

### **“Green Shoots” Highlights**

The new year began with a small, diligent team, chaired by Carolyn Kearns, working tirelessly from January to June to help our community put a strategic/visioning plan in place. (*Charting our Future with Christ* had already begun in the autumn of 2018, but the greatest effort occurred in 2019). Keen to discern the future to which God was calling us, the working group, along with our consultant The Rev. Paul MacLean, guided the community on a congregation-wide vision planning process. The response was a blessing for our parish. Numerous people participated in the various planning and discernment exercises, thus producing a solid plan focusing primarily on discipleship and community building. That mandate will be our guide for the next three to five years.

The visioning for our future fittingly dovetailed with the start of our sesquicentennial anniversary as a parish church. 150 years of proclaiming the Gospel is great discipleship work for which we should be proud, and is certainly worthy of celebration. Thus a small committee, co-chaired by Caroline van Nostrand and Su Laine Varkey, was formed to lead us through a year of marking this notable milestone in our life and history. There will be more to come throughout 2020.

For six months we held a Family Eucharist one Sunday each month, in anticipation of the relaxed third liturgy planned to begin January 2020. The informal and intergenerational nature of those energetic liturgies appealed to many of our traditional members and encouraged new young families to worship with us. There was always a sense of excitement on those Sundays. Worship feeds our faith and therefore cannot be static. Thus we are often nudged by the Spirit to explore new ways of expressing worship.

This past year we celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Jazz Vespers at Christ Church with three energetic and uplifting services in the spring. In 1999 the Rev. Dr. Tim Elliott (Rector at the time) inaugurated this service of evening prayers with local, live jazz. He thus began a new liturgical trend that spread from the GTA to churches throughout the country. It is a unique expression of worship that has drawn many and varied people through our doors.

As you will see elsewhere in this publication, Christ Church led an Alpha course in the autumn. It was a great experience for a goodly number of our members who wanted to get together to talk about our faith. That is not an easy activity for Anglicans. Yet, for six evenings and one Saturday we opened up and engaged with our pew mates about this great faith that has been passed on to us, thereby furthering our own growth. This course aroused much thought and discussion about our living God, and several people have continued to meet for further study to deepen their engagement with the faith.

These are a few indications of the “green shoots of growth” and the people of this parish will continue to water them as well as plant new shoots. I cannot read the future, but I believe we have great days ahead as we opt to grow in faith and build our ministry. Christ Church Deer Park has boundless potential for faithful discipleship and strong community because of the many strengths and joys that unite us and because of the deep love we have for our parish. And so, I pray that we will be given the grace, the wisdom and the courage we need to move into our future with confidence and trust in our God, for whom nothing is impossible.

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is  
growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing. Therefore we  
ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith. (1 Thessalonians 1:2-4)*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*The Rev. Canon Cheryl C. Palmer*

## **ASSOCIATE PRIEST**

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My appointment at CCDP began at the beginning of May 2019, and what a rewarding time it has been since then!

We introduced the Family Eucharist on the third Sunday in May last year and held it once a month until the introduction of our new 9:15 Sunday service. The Family Eucharist is a traditional Eucharist, with accompaniment mostly on the piano, and some newer forms of worship music. In addition, we include our children and youth as much as possible, having them read the lessons and say the prayers. This was a wonderful addition to our liturgical life and paved the way well for the introduction of a relaxed and informal service.

The new 9:15 service was launched on January 19, have enjoyed a terrific turnout in our first few weeks. We are so blessed to have a wonderful worship team made up of three dedicated laity: Cara Halpin, and Liz and Nick Gan. Having a pianist, guitarist and vocalist lead this service in worship allows us to introduce new worship music, as well as favourite hymns. We are using a series of approved liturgies for the new service, which all follow the established fourfold format of worship: gathering, proclamation of the word, response/communion, and sending. We will offer Children's Ministry at both services, and it will be useful for us to monitor the number of children we see at both services so we can make adjustments accordingly. Thank you to Debbie Wilkinson who has

taken on the role of hospitality coordinator for this new service, as well as helping to onboard new greeters. It is a great joy to see so many new laity taking part in the service, from reading to greeting and serving a chalice. We had a terrific training session for new chalice-bearers, and of our group, the majority are brand new at this vital ministry!

In addition to the creation and launch of this new service, we offered two new discipleship activities this past year: *The Spirit of Invitation* and Alpha. *The Spirit of Invitation* is a Diocesan resource available online, and we invited 12 lay leaders to participate in the late spring of 2019. This was a very helpful course for us—we were able to study scripture, pray, share a meal and brainstorm ideas about what makes an invitational community.

*The Spirit of Invitation* was an excellent precursor to Alpha, which we held in the parish for 6 weeks in the fall of 2019, once all of our people were back from summer holidays. We had between 40 and 50 people attend each week, and we had an excellent retention rate throughout the course. We were blessed with fabulous table group leaders including: Jan D'Angelo, Liz Gan, Rev. Cathy, Cheryl Palmer, and Tony Van Straubenzee. A huge hit was our hospitality, led by Danylo Dzwonyk. Thank you to all who helped lead this transformative course!

Alpha went so well, that it sparked a desire for more discipleship in the form of small group study. Rev. Cathy has been supporting Liz Gan and Jan D'Angelo as they lead this new ministry twice a month on Tuesday evenings and we are just so thrilled to see this sign of new life and growth in our parish.

Finally, we have made a special effort around parish life activities this year. We had a fantastic Pumpkin Patch Parish Party just before Hallowe'en which was incredibly well-attended and received. There was pumpkin carving, wine and cheese, a wonderful chili meal, mobile photo booth, and a costume swap. Special thanks to Cheryl Bedard for sharing her gift of hospitality and to Andrew Colman for the fun family activities. We are excited to hold another event like this at our Mardi Gras party on Shrove Tuesday this year. We are blessed to have Jayne Myles Simpson as an experienced and enthusiastic coordinator for the hospitality at this event.

These initiatives, along with my regular preaching and liturgical responsibilities, pastoral care visits and support of Andrew Colman as our Children's Minister have been a source of vocational joy for me, as I serve our Lord and the wonderful people of this parish.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*The Rev. Molly Finlay  
Associate Priest*

## **MANAGEMENT TEAM**

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It was during the second or third Sunday of our new 9:15 service that while listening to the Message (aka homily) I was thinking of the Wardens' report to vestry. I was seeking inspiration. For those who have not had the pleasure of attending our new service, you may not know that the congregation sits in the "choir stalls" which brings an intimate sense of community to our growing cohort. The Rector spoke of the importance of light and letting the light of Christ into our lives. It was during Cheryl's message that I happened to look down the Nave and through the Yonge St. doors. That morning there was a fresh snowfall on the ground which magnified the sunshine coming through the new glass doors. What a wonderful representation of our parish's past year.



The light coming in through the doors certainly represented the sense of new purpose and energy coming from our Parish Visioning process in 2018. Sitting in the new 9:15 service with a growing and enthusiastic community of existing parishioners and a healthy number of new parishioners reflected our plans for growth with a focus on community and deepening our relationships with Christ. It was an accessibility grant from the Diocese that made the new doors possible. The grant application solely focused on increasing physical accessibility to our parish. That morning the new doors also represented our renewed sense of spiritual accessibility for both old and new parishioners alike. In summary the past year in the life has been one of renewal and growth. Our annual Vestry provides an opportunity to reflect and celebrate our successes of which there are many this year. Your new Management Team met in the Spring of 2019 to identify our strategic priorities for the year. Five areas were identified to focus on with the goal of building on the momentum generated in 2018. Four of the five priorities were brought forward from those of 2018. The five priorities were:

- 1) Parish Governance and Advisory Board
- 2) Christian Education
- 3) Outreach and Social Justice
- 4) Parish Visioning Process
- 5) Intentional Focus on Community and Fellowship

### ***Parish Governance and Advisory Board***

The Advisory Board was better integrated in the planning and operations of the parish this year. The Board met three times over the year with a fourth planned meeting over the summer cancelled due member's summer vacation schedules.

The Advisory Board is the central body of the parish in which all the standing committees of the parish are members. This year Board took steps to clarify the parish committees and their roles and responsibilities with the goal of having each committee self-identify their terms of reference.

Highlights of the Board include the work of the Finance Committee. This committee has become instrumental in the review of the Parish rental income. The committee is assembling an inventory of our rental capacity and initiating a market study to update our rental rates and begin the process of transitioning our tenants to more representative market rates.

The December meeting of the Board was dedicated to the review of the proposed 2020 operational budget with the opportunity for the Board to provide feedback and guidance. There was a healthy discussion during the December meeting regarding the proposed deficit budget while emphasising the need to invest in the parish growth plans. The Advisory Board recommended that Management Team reverse the proposed cuts to the Adult Christian Education Ministry.

### ***Christian Education***

Rev. Cathy facilitated several successful adult education workshops, studies, and activities throughout the year both at the church and traveling beyond our parish boundaries. The parish hosted it's first Alpha course. Alpha is a multi-week course that creates a space where people are excited to bring their friends for a conversation about faith, life and God.

In his role as Director of Youth and Children's Ministry Andrew Coleman has taken church to the youth of the parish meeting with them in their activities outside of church to highlight that God is always with us. August of 2019 saw another successful Vacation Bible Camp. VBC continues to be an excellent activity to engage children and youth both from the parish and beyond. This past year Andrew sought to build strength in numbers by having the youth of the parish meet weekly with the youth group at St. Paul's Bloor St.

Looking to the coming year, the Management Team is eager to continue the work started by Rev. Cathy with a commitment for two further years of start-up funding for the adult education program. In January of 2020 Andrew Colman was selected by the Diocesan Postulancy Committee to be ordained deacon in May 2020. We will undertake a search to find a new Director of Youth and Children's Ministry when Andrew leaves us in May to take the next step in his vocation.

### ***Outreach and Social Justice***

In addition to the valuable work of the Community Breakfast program and participation in the Churches on the Hill foodbank the parish undertook several new initiatives including three new refugee sponsorships.

The Refugee Committee is forefront in helping the "second Al Kadri" get settled in Canada. Both Tony van Straubenzee and Danylo Dzwonyk are also providing leadership by helping two separate refugee claimants get settled in Canada.

### ***Parish Visioning Process***

In 2020 work began on expanding on and bringing definition to the top three priorities identified in the Parish Visioning process. These were building a community hub, development of a parish brochure, and the introduction of a new liturgy.

Much work is left to be done on moving these important initiatives forward. The most progress has been realized with the introduction of the 9:15 service in January 2020. This service was the result of pilot Sundays throughout the fall of 2019 to experiment with new liturgy styles and approaches.

### ***Intentional Focus on Community and Fellowship***

Although the desire to build on and strength our sense of community and fellowship was highlighted through the Parish Visioning process, the Management Team determined that working on this throughout 2019 was of such importance that it be called out as its own strategic objective. We committed to focus on community development through all parish events, facilitating small group activities, increasing awareness and communication through the renewal of our website, and developing a plan to celebrate the Parish's 150 Anniversary in 2020.

The bouncy house is always a favourite of many at the parish BBQs. In addition to the bouncy house, Sunflower the clown joined us for the fall BBQ with face painting for all. We sought to augment the BBQs and Shove Tuesday supper with the introduction of two new events. The first of which was the Pumpkin Patch Party. The many different pumpkin carving designs at this all generation event was the highlighted of the evening.

The second event, an Advent Party, was cancelled due to a very busy Advent including Tony van Straubenzee's Glad Tidings production. By all accounts if the enthusiastic promotion of the Mardi Gras dinner is an indicator, it will be another great fellowship event in the parish.

The relaunch of our website ([www.christchurchdeerpark.org](http://www.christchurchdeerpark.org)) with a new easier to view format and better presentation of information has been a great success with preliminary analysis of the website usage indicating that people are coming and spending time viewing the site. Please ensure that you make some time to look if you haven't already.

### ***150th Anniversary of Christ Church Deer Park***

December 21<sup>st</sup> 2020 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our parish. Plans are underway to ensure we celebrate this important milestone in the life of our parish. We will be celebrating with events

throughout the year. The Bishop of Toronto will be joining us in December to celebrate the official anniversary date. Announcements for the celebrations will be forthcoming.

Here is some background on the formation of CCDP.

A meeting was held on June 6<sup>th</sup> 1870 in the old brick schoolhouse in Davisville to explore the feasibility of establishing a new parish and first between St. Paul's Bloor St. and St. John's York Mills. At a subsequent meeting on July 18<sup>th</sup> a Building Committee was established and work to construct the original wood frame building was started on October 5<sup>th</sup>. The church was completed and ready for occupation in exactly eleven weeks, at a total cost of \$3000.00

The first service of CCDP was on December 21<sup>st</sup> 1870 with the then Bishop of Toronto the Right Reverend A.N. Bethune presiding. The church was formally consecrated by the Bishop of Toronto on the first anniversary December 21<sup>st</sup> 1871.

Missions of Christ Church Deer Park include:

- Church of the Redeemer (then on Davenport Rd.)
- Church of the Messiah
- St. Cuthbert's in Leaside
- St. Hilda
- St. Michael and All Angels
- Grace Church on the Hill

### ***Thank You***

Many thanks are due to all the dedicated individuals who contribute to and serve CCDP. We owe a great deal to our Clergy, staff, and volunteers, for without them we would not exist. We cannot thank each of you enough.

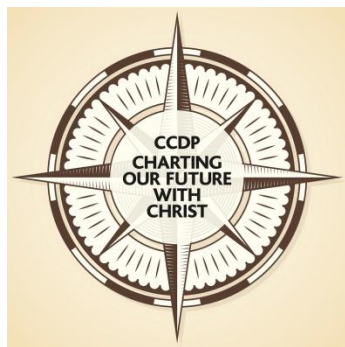
On behalf of the parish, I'd like to extend thanks and appreciation to Don Bedard who is retiring from the Management Team. We have been blessed by his passion and commitment to the parish.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Andrew van Nostrand on behalf of Wardens Debbie Wilkinson, Ward Lindsey, and Don Bedard*

## VISION PLANNING

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In the fall of 2018, Christ Church Deer Park embarked on a nine-month planning process which was completed in June, 2019. It had five desired outcomes:

- A vision of who we want to be and how to get there
- An increased understanding of our purpose and relevance to the larger community (the neighbourhood and beyond) in terms of community betterment and attracting new parti
- Greater engagement on the part of parishioners in parish activities, including spiritual growth, excitement, and commitment
- A plan that will lead to growth in congregational numbers
- Preparation for our parish's sesquicentennial

The 12 member steering team, working with a facilitator, and under the overall direction of the CCDP management team, provided regular updates and reports during Sunday service announcements, in weekly bulletins, and in *Spiritus* articles.

A full report is available from the parish office. Some highlights follow, all of which have been presented in earlier communications. For more details please see the report.

### Vision/Mission

*As disciples of the risen Christ, we strive to follow his great commandments—to love God and our neighbour. We express that love, deepen our faith and grow our community through worship, caring for one another, and by acts of service to the neighbourhood and the wider world.*

### Values (to guide our actions)

- Diversity and inclusion
- Exploration and questioning
- Welcoming, affirming and safe
- Joy and celebration, empathy and compassion
- Embracing change, grounded in the Anglican tradition

### Suggested Initiatives

At a March 2019 weekend retreat, small groups identified approximately 12 initiatives as possible ways to achieve our vision and mission:

#### Area of Focus

Community

Worship & Life of Prayer

Teaching & Learning

Compassionate Care

#### Ministry Initiatives Identified

Faith study/discipleship  
Theatre arts and coffee house

Additional Sunday worship service  
Prayer group and chain  
Food for thought (group dinners)

Connection Team

Sharing our Faith

Churches-on-the-Hill information on  
worship services  
CCDP open for prayer during the week  
Mid-week evening service

Gospel in Action

Battle climate change  
Social justice program  
Community hub

A shortlist was developed from the initial suggestions, recognizing that vision planning is based roughly on a five-year timeframe and that parish energy and resources must also be devoted to ongoing work and commitments.

At the present time 8 of the 12 initiatives are being implemented. It is never too late to get involved if one of these initiatives interests you.

We are pleased and proud of the engagement and work of our parish on this important work, and we are excited about our future progress moving forward.

*Respectfully submitted on behalf of the CCDP Parish Steering Team,*

*Carolyn Kearns  
Chair*

## **PARISH ADVISORY BOARD**

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The parish Advisory Board became a priority of the 2018 Management Team who in last year's Report to Vestry stated: "Key to improving our overall approach to volunteers in the parish, addressing recruitment, succession planning, and recognition, the Advisory Board is a key development". With this positive statement of direction, the 2019 Advisory Board has continued to "establish a natural rhythm of parish planning." The Board met during June with a focus on Board structure and functioning. A total of eleven parish groups are represented on the board and this meeting provided an opportunity for Board members to see the scope of the parish in a face to face setting. The Board also met in September with the expressed purpose of advisory feedback to the Management Team relating to their parish group activities. At all Board meetings a year-to-date financial report is provided by the parish Treasurer Nick Strube. All financial reporting culminated in the presentation of a draft 2020 Budget at the December Board meeting. Detailed explanation of the Draft Budget was provided by the Treasurer. A substantive discussion amongst the Management Team and the Board members took place enabling the Management Team to carry the Draft Budget to the February 2020 Financial Forum stage.

The year 2020 will provide further opportunities for the members of the Advisory Board to participate in a hands-on interface with the Management Team and other parish group leaders. David Newman in his book *Growing Up Into The Children of God* makes the statement: "our definition of a Christian is only authentic if it bears the fruit of Christ-like character and service. Otherwise it can be no more than wanting the security of a tribe, the comfort of the gang."

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Ward Lindsey, Chair*

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

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It was determined the first step for the Financial Committee would be to focus on the use and revenue of the building. It was determined there were opportunities to increase revenue based on the use of space and rates.

The purpose is to increase revenue from rentals of the space but at the same time ensure the space is always available for CCDP's use first and foremost.

To that end, the committee toured the building, and under the guidance of Paul Marritt reviewed the available space, the current rental use and some of the challenges faced in renting out space. Further research has been completed to review the current local charges for similar rental spaces. Members of the Management Team reported on the overview of other churches in the neighbourhood and receive information indicating we had room for improvement on total revenues from rentals.

Today we are working on our final recommendations on how best to improve the income from renting the spaces available and what needs to be done to increase the number of rooms available as rental spaces.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Cheryl Bedard  
Chair*

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

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*"Honour the Lord with your wealth, with first fruits of all you produce; then will your barns be filled with grain, with new wine will your vats overflow."* Proverbs 3:9-10

I stepped into the role of Chair of CCDP's Stewardship Committee one year ago, and how quickly the year has flown by in our busy parish!

The 2019 stewardship committee, comprised of myself, Carolyn Kearns (Vice-Chair), David Moore, George Lewis, Cheryl Bedard and Nick Strube, decided to switch our focus from the Diocese's *Growing Healthy Stewards* program, which was introduced to our parish in 2016, to a more holistic and donor-centred fundraising program focusing on 'joyful giving,' a sentiment we believe is inspiring to many and which characterizes much of the kind and generous support offered at CCDP.

The change – and our drive to attract new levels of giving and support – inspired a number of initiatives to integrate stewardship into various elements of life at our parish, including:

- Introducing joyful giving-themed stewardship messaging into service bulletins throughout the fall
- Prior to Commitment Sunday, featuring testimonials at both the 8:00 and 10:00 am services, outlining how and why parishioners support CCDP and its programs
- Stewardship integration with the liturgy via homilies and messaging by Cheryl and Molly
- Mailing over 200 (approximately half) of our congregants to solicit their support of Commitment Sunday on November 17, asking either



- Parishioners who hadn't yet established an ongoing pre-authorized gift (PAG), to consider committing their support on a monthly basis through either their chequing account or credit card; OR
- Asking committed PAG supporters to increase the amount of their regular gift.

2019 saw an increase in our parish costs, reflecting our full complement of clergy – a wonderful and long-awaited outcome for Christ Church Deer Park!

Increasing costs in turn placed a growing pressure on stewardship efforts since, the more we spend as a parish, greater is the amount to be raised. Of course our primary source of revenue is from inspiring the supportive and kind giving of congregants and visitors.

And on that, happily, we achieved some very positive results, including:

- Of our 461 known – i.e. with a record in our system – parishioners, **we were gratified to receive the support of 335, or 73%, during 2019.**
- This strong participation level was strengthened further by **216 – or 65% – of our donors also kindly increasing their giving in 2019.**
- The generosity of our parishioners yielded a **new apex of giving in 2019, reaching a total of \$582,039**, compared – as an example – to a total of \$489,134 in 2018.

While these were wonderful results – for which we can all feel accomplished! – unfortunately, 2019 still ended with a \$12,000 deficit. The positive factor, however, was that our final deficit was far less than the originally projected 2019 deficit of \$99,000.

Of course, fundraising takes time and focus and while much progress has been undertaken, more remains to be done to continue to increase our fundraising capacity and resulting revenues, and to bring CCDP to a balanced budget or, eventually, create an operating surplus. Doing so remains a goal to be realized. Success would enable us to build up CCDP's coffers and enable needed capital expenditures.

Further insights regarding 2019 stewardship results and plans for 2020 will be shared in my presentation during Vestry.

Let me close by acknowledging the extraordinary support we received from so many members of and visitors to our parish in 2019 – including gifts of time, talents and treasure. We are truly and greatly blessed.

*“Command them to do good, to be extravagant in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.” 1 Timothy 6:18-19*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Caroline van Nostrand  
Chair*

## TRUST COMMITTEE

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The CCDP Trust Committee oversees the investments of the various trust funds (see below) held by CCDP. The Committee is composed of five parishioners appointed by Corporation. Throughout 2019, its members were:

Franck Perrin Chair  
Jill MacRae Co-chair - **Resigned** in November  
Robert Morrow – **Resigned** in December  
Kathleen Kent  
Michael Butler  
Ben W Kizemchuk - **Joined** in the summer)  
Nick Strube, Management Board Observer and support  
Rev. Canon Cheryl Palmer, ex-officio  
Paul Marritt, Director of Parish Operations, staff support

The responsibilities of the Committee are as follows:

1. Engage an Investment Advisor to advise on the management of the Trust Funds in accordance with these Terms of Reference;
2. Evaluate the performance of the Investment Advisor annually. Such evaluation could lead to the replacement of the Investment Advisor;
3. Evaluate the performance of the Trust Funds at least semi-annually;
4. Review the Trust Funds for compliance with these Terms of Reference at least semi-annually;
5. Report to Corporation as requested and at least annually;
6. Report to the annual Vestry meeting;
7. Review these Terms of Reference annually, with any substantive proposed changes first being submitted to Corporation for comment; and
8. Carry out these responsibilities with the diligence, independence and objectivity reasonably expected of a volunteer committee.

The Committee met four times formally, with proper quorum, focussing on matters such as:

1. Reviewing the performance of the portfolio and individual holdings with Bruce Moore CIBC, our financial advisor/stock broker, on a regular basis; and
2. Making any changes deemed necessary to the composition of the portfolio

The Investment Objectives for the Trust Funds are:

1. Preservation of Capital;
2. Provision of secure income for the operations of the Church;
3. Capital appreciation without undue risk;
4. Achieve an annual total rate of return on the funds that exceeds the rate of inflation by 3% over the most recent 4 years period; and
5. Achieve the specific investment policy for each of the Funds (see below).

### Description & Balance of the Funds

#### 1. **Endowment Fund:** **\$ 1,558,045**

The Endowment Fund was established in 1963 to receive gifts of money which were to be placed in approved investments to be selected and monitored by the Trust Committee. The investment income from the Fund may be used for such purposes as the Corporation sees fit. Such purposes would generally include any operating expenses of the Church. The capital of the Endowment Fund may not be withdrawn. Any investment income not used by the Corporation in any year shall be added to the capital of the Fund and thereafter may not be withdrawn.

*Investment Policy:* invest in long-term assets to generate current income whilst preserving capital.

**3. 1870 Fund: \$ 83,211**

Established by approval of vestry on October 14, 2007. Investment income may be used for the operations of the Church. Any use of the Capital of the Fund above \$35,000 in any calendar year will require prior approval of Vestry. As at December 31, 2012, the 1870 Fund had a loan receivable of \$85,000 from Corporation. The original loan was for \$110,000.

*Investment Policy:* those funds not required in the current fiscal year should be invested in long-term assets to generate capital growth whilst preserving capital.

**3. Woodcock Theological Fund: \$ 79,194**

This fund was created with a bequest from Canon Woodcock. No further contributions to this fund will be accepted. As Canon Woodcock did not specify how the funds should be used, vestry determined that income from the funds should be applied to theological education including the continuing education of the ministry staff of Christ Church Deer Park. Capital of the fund may not be withdrawn.

*Investment Policy:* invest in long-term assets to generate current income whilst preserving capital.

**4. Ministry Funds: \$ 60,492**

This fund was created with a donation from a single parishioner. The funds are to be held pending agreement between the Rector and the donor on a suitable expenditure or expenditures.

*Investment Policy:* Maintain liquidity and preserve capital.

**4. Rectory Fund: \$ 1,156,153**

This fund was created with the proceeds from the sale of the rectory. The funds are held and invested by the Diocese on behalf of Christ Church Deer Park. Currently the income generated is forwarded to Corporation to meet annual operating/programme expenses.

*Investment Policy:* invest in long-term assets to generate current income whilst preserving capital.

**6. Re-Imagining Church: \$ 336,926**

**7. Performance of the Funds for 2019**

<b>Starting Value</b>	<b>\$ 2,098,088.48</b>
Inflows	\$ 604,964.40
Outflows	\$-731,877.02
Revenues	\$ 56,193.68
<b>Ending Value</b>	<b>\$ 2,202,359.50</b>
<b>Performance – Net*</b>	<b>11.193%</b>
<b>*On a Time-Weighted basis</b>	

Notes:

1. The income from the Rectory Fund accrues to CCDP. The initial principal was generated through the sale of a residence previously purchased for the use of a previous Minister.
2. It is the policy of the Anglican Church of Canada that it is the ultimate beneficiary of all funds held by or on behalf of CCDP.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Franck Perrin , Chair*

## ADULT EDUCATION AND DISCIPLESHIP

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2019 was a very active year in our Adult Ed program.

### LENTEN STUDY

This year focused on Climate Change. Topics included our responsibility to God's earth, how we celebrate God's creation, where is the justice and how do we love our neighbours. It ended with writing a final report on how we at CCDP can care for the God's gift of creation. This course was offered after the 10:00 service with 10 participants.

### SACRED MUSIC

This program launched with 17 people going to St.Jacobs' Schoolhouse Theatre to see Good Ol' Country Gospel. It included a visit to the Waterloo Farmer's Market, lunch and we called into Picard's Peanuts as well. It was a toe tapping event and everyone had a great time. Everyone received a handout on the history of Gospel music. The subsequent classes explored the history of sacred music through the Halleluiahs Chorus and various Christmas carols. We used different types of music that focused on prayer such as Taize and Gregorian chant. This course was offered after the 8:00 and the 10:00 services with 6 participants at each .

### PRAYER

Using Anne Lamott's book *Help, Thanks, Wow*, we looked at how we can integrate prayer more easily into our daily lives just by asking for what we need, giving thanks for what we have, and making time to listen to the response. This included experiencing different types of prayer to help us focus on Christ in our midst such as centering prayer and the use of prayer beads. This course was offered after 10:00 service having 11 participants. It was suggested it be offered again after the 8:00.

### ALPHA

We had our very first Alpha course and it was an overwhelming success. About forty people came out for six Tuesday evenings to partake in dinner fellowship, followed by a video, and then meet in small groups to talk about how we live our faith each day and what questions we have about our faith. Conversations were candid and exciting and challenging. Some participants decided to continue meeting because the conversations were so good.

### GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

A one-day retreat was held looking at the Gospel of Matthew, which was to be the Gospel for 2020. Thirteen of us looked at who wrote it, why it was written, when it was written and for whom it was written. We examined Jesus' parables in the Gospel of Matthew figuring out what Matthew wanted us to know about Jesus in these wonderful stories. Lots of good discussion to prepare us for 2020.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Cathy Gibbs*  
*Director*

## CHILDREN & YOUTH

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2019 was full of change and growth on so many fronts at CCDP, one of the real pieces of hopeful evidence was this year's Children's Christmas pageant. In 2018 I had to fill some of the roles in the pageant with older youth and adults. This year all of the parts filled at the request of the children and parents, I wrote in an additional shepherd, and still, we had more willing participants for speaking roles. Never has there been a better problem to have.

2019 was a year of laying a foundation for the future of Children's Ministry at CCDP: both physical and personnel. (1) Regarding the physical foundations, the most significant change was that the storage room was completely de-cluttered, sanitized, and organized. There are endless craft supplies, props, and costumes that have been put to full use at the Vacation Bible Camp, Sunday School, Bethlehem Market, and more since the cleanup. (2) The Children's Ministry Room was also entirely, cleaned and organized, and outfitted with a new curriculum and Bibles. (3) The third piece of physical foundation is I have started and will leave a Director's Handbook, which outlines all of the events, programs, and expectations, along with their relevant and helpful contacts.

We have made a strong connection with the St. Paul's Bloor Street Youth Group which happens each Wednesday at 7 pm. After only three weeks of the connection, we have had anywhere from two to four of our youth attend every week. The intention for the partnership is for CCDP to have a place for our youth to go and be with people their own age while we build up the necessary critical mass of youth for a CCDP youth program.

The other significant change made during the end of 2019 and the beginning of 2020 is the building up of a strong Children's Ministry Leadership team of at least nine people. Some with years of Children's Ministry experience and others with none but have felt called to serve and have a passion for the care of the children here at Christ Church Deer Park. This is a blessing for which we should all rejoice and give thanks!

Attendance, on average, over the year, has grown. The growth seems to have correlated with the addition of the once a month 10 am family service. We have seen the expected trend of rising and falling children's attendance according to the summer cottage season and winter sports season.

For the families that are busy on Sunday morning during these two seasons, I have started a new ministry called *Sundays Away Ministry*. It is a concise lesson based on a video delivered through email. There are currently six subscribers. However, as soon as I mention the program to families to whom it may apply, they immediately request to be signed up. During the "shoulder" seasons have seen as many 15-18 children ranging from four years old to fourteen.

With our new and growing Children's Ministry team and the increase in children's attendance, there is a distinct possibility of having enough children and leaders to break into tighter age groups in the next six to twelve months.

Vacation Bible Camp this year was a fantastic success. We took a long journey through the story of a powerful woman: Queen Esther. There were eighteen children in attendance, and we had fourteen volunteers. It was the favorite camp of the summer for many of the campers once again. This year many of the campers were not regular attendees of CCDP. It would seem that it is attended by children from the surrounding community who are not regular churchgoers.

Regarding the Community Youth Breakfast, the same can be said. There are usually around a dozen volunteers with five or six being teenagers. At the end of last year, most of the youth volunteers were from outside of the congregation.

With gladness, I report that I will be ordained on May 3, 2020. This means that I will be moving on from Christ Church Deer Park. My final Sunday is yet unknown as there are many factors at play as to when and where I'll be going next. There is a search happening for a replacement. However, I am pleased to say that with the recent Spirit-lead growth of the Children's Ministry I am confident in saying that there will be a strong team left to carry on the program if there is a gap between directors.

2020 is showing signs of promise on every front. Let us all continue to pray for the Children's Ministry here at Christ Church Deer Park.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Andrew Colman  
Coordinator*

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### **MUSIC @ CCDP**

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Music is an integral part of our community at Christ Church Deer Park and it is a great joy to lead and oversee our music program. I appreciate the support of Rev. Canon Cheryl Palmer and the Pastoral & Management Teams for working with me to find a way to step-back from my weekly responsibilities at CCDP and focus on my Ph.D. studies.

After an extensive search, Robert Dixon was appointed Associate Director of Music in October 2019. Robert is a wonderful addition to our community both musically and liturgically, and he has been touched by the warm welcome extended from our choir and congregation. Currently, Robert and I share weekly rehearsals and Sunday morning liturgies (typically one week on/one week off).

The addition of this new role, and the new 9:15am service, means an increase in music-related expenses, which also includes honoraria for guest musicians (Christmas & Easter), remuneration for choral leads, new sheet music, and costs associated with the pick-up Children & Youth Choir.

Here are some highlights from our ministry activities in 2019:

#### **1. Pick-Up Children & Youth Choir**

After launching the Children's & Youth Choir in September 2018, it was determined that we had greater success with the "pick-up" choir model. Using this success, we formed a choir for the 4:00pm Christmas Eve service. Here, youth attended three (3) rehearsals on Sunday mornings in preparation.

I wish to thank Julia Barber and Jacques Arsenault for their excellent work with the choir, and for their continued collaboration as we better understand the needs of our young parishioners and their families.

#### **2. Choir of Christ Church Deer Park**

Throughout 2019, the Choir of CCDP sang at more than 45 liturgies, collectively dedicating countless hours to this ministry. With a volunteer core of 19 members, plus the support of 6 professional singers, our choir continues to reach new levels of artistry, ministry, and stewardship.



**a. Professional Singers:**

CCDP boasts an exceptional team of professional singers, who exhibit superb vocal skills coupled with excellent musicality, strong musical leadership, and a deep commitment to collaboration. Additional professional singers are engaged from time to time, depending on the complexity of the repertoire and the attendance of our volunteer choristers.

I wish to thank and acknowledge our outstanding professionals, all of whom have Master degrees in voice performance and boast busy performing careers: Kelsey Taylor, Sonya Harper Nyby, Julia Barber, Jacques Arseneault, Bradley Christensen and Peter Warren.

**b. Pedagogy:**

As an educator, I am deeply committed to developing the gifts of our singers through music education and faith-formation. The overall choral tone continues to benefit from increased attention to voice pedagogy within the rehearsal context. Choristers are taught healthy vocalism, musicianship, sight-reading, and aural skills. The rehearsals also strive to educate choristers in the role of music in the liturgical context.

**c. Liturgical Music Planning:**

Music repertoire lists are available to our choristers by liturgical season. Our choristers are encouraged to take home their music and practice independently. I have been impressed with their openness and commitment to learn new repertoire, dedicating time outside of the rehearsal context to this ministry.

**3. Hymnody & Repertoire:**

Remaining firmly rooted in the rich treasury of Anglican choral repertoire, I have also incorporated contemporary sacred choral music and hymnody. In an attempt to strengthen and animate congregational song, I have introduced new mass settings, eclectic psalm settings, and contemporary hymns. With our OneLicense & CCLI account, CCDP can reproduce such music in our Orders of Service to ensure community involvement. The choir has added new works to its repertoire, including choral masterworks, motets, spirituals, and masses in a variety of styles.

**4. Music Library:**

The choral library has over 1100 titles in our library. Our volunteer choir librarian, Emily Chatten, dedicates many hours to distribute, collect, organize and catalogue our choral music library. Thank you, Emily!

I wish to extend my deepest gratitude to the members of the choir for their unfailing dedication, collaboration and spirit of service. Thank you to the CCDP community for their continued support of our thriving music program!

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Matthew Otto  
Director of Music*

## DIOCESAN SYNOD

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Christ Church Deer Park was well represented by our Ministry and lay delegates to the 2019 Synod of the Diocese of Toronto, held in Richmond Hill this year on November 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> and preceded by area diocesan meetings (ours was at St. John's York Mills) at which members had the opportunity to ask detailed questions on the proposals coming forward.

Highlights of the Synod meeting, the first at which Bishop Andrew Asbil presided, included the opportunity to share in the Eucharist and Morning Prayer services which started the agenda on respective mornings. It was a wonderful and reassuring opportunity to participate with over 1,000 Anglicans from across the diocese in our traditional rites.

From a business perspective, the highlight/lowlight was the failure (by one vote shy of the 75% approval required in the clergy division) of a proposal to streamline diocesan synod governance between meetings. The proposal was the output from a two-year program of study by a task force of volunteers with specific expertise in this area. On a more positive note, Synod adopted motions to measure our environmental footprint as a diocese and encourage individual parishes to take steps over the next few years (e.g. limiting single-use plastics) to further reduce this.

On a further positive note, the Bishop held a public "listening" session on the result of the College of Bishops' vote at the National General Synod meeting to deny the adoption of same-sex marriage in the Canon. There was a full and respectful hearing of the wide range of views among the Synod delegates; however, the Bishop delivered a powerful message of inclusion for members of the LGBTQ community and noted the availability of the "local option" to be used in the Diocese of Toronto in order to perform same-sex marriages.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*George Lewis  
Lay member of Synod*

## ST. ANDREW'S GROUP

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The St. Andrew's group still meets every Tuesday, although the number of participants has decreased. Bridge is played in the afternoon with at least one table and sometimes more. A quilt was completed this by Anne Le Feuvre, Betty Van Wyck, Maria Zamfir and Dorit Zschape.

We still help with the rummage sales; pricing, setting up and working the day of the sale. Also we help with the Holy and Holly Festival, especially making cookies and other goodies for the bake table.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Anne Le Feuvre, Joan Huycke  
Co-Presidents*

## CHANCEL GUILD

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The Chancel Guild ladies and gentleman continue to keep the silver and brass bright and shining, even though the numbers of members are fewer than last year. I would like to thank Sandy Crane especially; she launders all the linens each week. The church is prepared by the Chancel Guild for baptisms, weddings, funerals and major church festivals. I would like to thank all the members for all their work and support over the past years.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Maggie Symons  
Chair*

## HOSPITALITY

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Once again, I would like to say thank you to the fabulous volunteers who have helped with all aspects of hospitality this last year at Christ Church Deer Park. Everyone's hard work and commitment have been appreciated by the entire congregation. And we are truly grateful for the core team who continue to volunteer serving coffee and refreshments following the 8:00am, 10:00am Sunday Eucharist as well as Jazz Vespers where fellowship continues to thrive and grow.

I am pleased to report that hospitality continues to be alive and well at Christ Church Deer Park. This year has been celebrated by pancake supper, bbqs, pot luck lunches, Baptisms and thank you receptions. We have had so many opportunities to meet, and celebrate together. In 2019, we added even more events like: Welcome BBQ and the Parish Pumpkin Patch Party!

This year we are hoping to continue to welcome new people and new ideas into the Hospitality Ministry and continue to grow our service with Christ Church Deer Park.

*"Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers". Romans 12:13*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Deborah Wilkinson  
Coordinator*

## SIDES DUTY

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Side Person Ministry is a calling of sisters and brothers in Christ to greet and welcome persons to Christ Church Deer Park.

Other responsibilities include:

- Providing the bulletin or the order of service to members and visitors,
- Taking up the elements (bread and wine) to the altar to be consecrated;
- Picking up the offertory from the people;
- Directing persons up for communion;
- Alerting the priest to take communion to persons who are unable to go to the communion rail;
- Ensuring the offertory of the people is stored securely after the service;

- Taking attendance record;
- Introducing any new persons/visitors to the priest.

During 2019, our side persons did an amazing job in committing their time which ensured adequate representation every Sunday at the 10:00am service, and on other Holy Days. Great job team and a huge Thank You!

Two of our side persons (Elsa Jones and David Thornton) were awarded the Order of the Diocese of Toronto on January 1, 2020. Congratulations Elsa and David!

In 2020, we will be looking to expand this important ministry and invite anyone who has this calling or ability to speak with any of the side persons. We will be more than happy to meet with you as together, we can make a difference in God's kingdom.

*"There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to all for their particular service." – 1 Corinthians 12.6*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Merryn Chung  
Chair*

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### CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM

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The Member of the CCT have met 8 times in the past year. Our team of 9 volunteers and clergy continue to be in touch with over 20 of our parishioners who are in special circumstances. In several of these situations members of our team will arrange transport to services at CCDP. We work closely with the clergy, to exchange information on those of our parish in need. The need for confidentiality is paramount in all we do.

We were sorry to see Robert Gorham step back from full participation in this initiative and wish him well in his new endeavours.

We are always on the lookout for new members, so please contact me to find out more.

My heartfelt thanks to the to the following:

Margo Bowen, Maggie Symons, Edna Quammie, Bob Reeves, Anne Larkin, Dorothy Lancaster, Bob Shea, David Moore and our wonderful clergy.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*William Jackson  
Chair*

## CHALLENGING CHRISTIANITY

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*Challenging Christianity* is an adult discussion group which meets at noon, on the second Friday of each month, September to June. The group explores the challenges of Christianity through dialogue that delves into personal beliefs and doubts grounded in our individual life experiences. Through the past year our discussions have been based on the books; *Forgiveness Remembers: A Journey into The Heart of God* and *Growing Into The Children Of God: Exploring the paradoxes of Christian maturity*. These books ignite discussions that expand into thoughts stepping beyond the chapters. This small earnest group welcomes any new members. The groups discussion leader is Ward Lindsey.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Ward Lindsey  
Coordinator*

## COMMUNICATIONS

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2019 was an extraordinary year for communication at Christ Church Deer Park. And it couldn't have happened without the ongoing behind-the-scene creative work of Henry Zaluski and our website designer Anders Carlen at Carlen Communications.

The redesign of the CCDP website took just over six months from idea to realization and was launched over the 2019 Advent season. The vision was to create our website that was inclusive, welcoming and informative. And since the launch, we have had over 2,000 visitors viewing about 5,500 pages. Here's feedback from a communications manager at a large Toronto parish: *"I wanted to let you know I love your new website! The layout is modern and clean, I love the engaging yet subtle animations, and I think you did a great job at organizing all your information for newcomers. Also, your events calendar rocks! God bless your new website – I hope it leads new people through the doors of your wonderful church, and ultimately to Christ!"* We are so blessed to have our re-designed website shining a light on all of the great things that are happening at CCDP.

Since May 2019, we are pleased to report that our CCDP Facebook page saw a dramatic increase of 120 more people "liking" our Facebook page. Regular weekly posts are now aligned with our vision of growth and renewal with posts celebrating Family Eucharist, Pentecost, and Follow the Star.

New initiatives reached new interest and people. Postcards, posters and our service bulletins highlighted and promoted discipleship and fellowship at CCDP including (but not limited to) Alpha, Follow the Star, Welcome BBQ, and the Pumpkin Parish Party! Another postcard that was initiated in fall was the Connection Card which we have connected with over 30 newcomers to Christ Church Deer Park. We are also proud of our impactful new Children's Ministry banners that welcome families as they enter our doors.

While the improved communication to those who enter Christ Church Deer Park was front and center, we purposefully took bigger steps to welcome our neighbours. There was a new "Welcome Sunday" banner welcoming everyone to our fall BBQ complete with a bouncy castle, fabulous face painting, and a lot of happy families! And in addition to free online promotion of CCDP Events, like BlogTO, we dropped postcards to 2,600 homes in our neighbourhood welcoming them to our

Easter Week and Christmas services, and the Holy & Holly Christmas Fair. 2019 was a banner year (no pun intended) for neighbourhood outreach!

We are grateful to God for all that is happening in our parish—and it's a joy to be able to spread the word in our communications efforts.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Debbie Wilkinson*

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## SPIRITUS

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It is an honour and delight to serve as editor of our parish newsletter, *Spiritus*. It publishes opinion pieces, educational notes, book reviews, ministry & committee reports, notices, and other miscellaneous items, without demanding conformity of thought or opinion.

In 2019, there were three regular issues of *Spiritus*—Lent, September, and Advent—but no special issue. Three regular issues are also planned for 2020, and the 2020 Lent issue is currently under production.

Henry Zaluski, who is a pleasure to work with, volunteers his creative skills and makes each issue look professional and appealing. Paul Marritt, our director of parish operations, and the parish volunteers who assist him guarantee that *Spiritus* comes out on time. They print, staple, fold, and mail copies, and ensure that the newsletter is uploaded to the Christ Church Deer Park website. Past issues can be found at <https://christchurchdeerpark.org/spiritus-archive/>.

All members of the parish are invited to write for the *Spiritus*. Many cheerfully oblige, so the publication lives up to its name: *Spirit*. That's *us*. As editor, I am always pleased to receive submissions and to engage with writers about them. I continue to admire their willingness to expose their innermost thoughts to our scrutiny. I also have a high regard for parishioners who submit questions to Church Mouse; for its size, that mouse has quite a bite.

*Spiritus* readers include parishioners who are unable to attend worship services due to ill health or other reasons. Readers' encouraging and positive feedback means a lot to contributors, so keep those cards and letters coming!

On behalf of the parish, I once again recognize and thank all those who have contributed to the success of *Spiritus*. I am grateful for the privilege of serving as editor.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Genevieve Chornenki*  
*Publisher*



## CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

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Several members helped the Rev. Cathy Gibbs shape the Lenten study on Climate Change and the Purposes of God and participated in the interesting four-week program of discussions. One helped Paul Marritt do the checklist of parish practices which is set out in the Diocese of Toronto's Green Congregation Guide. We helped plan the Earth Day service, with a sermon shared by Cathy and the Rev. Robert Gorham, handed out a leaflet to post on refrigerators as a reminder of things we need to make, and showed useful items to purchase for earth care. The Green Tips we put in the Bulletin could spark some change! Through participation of one experienced member on the Property Committee, the energy audit we have been pressing for is now in process, and a detailed parish commitment is being put forward for the congregation to affirm in the motion on climate change we are presenting at vestry.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Phyllis Creighton*  
*Chair*

## REFUGEE SUPPORT COMMITTEE

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The second Syrian Refugee Family to be sponsored by CCDP arrived on October 17, 2019. Three months earlier than we had originally been informed that they would do so but the process was in the hands of the UN.

The Alkadiri Family, who have been well introduced to the CCDP parish consist of the father Mazen, the mother Chirin, Nagham 16, Haneen 15, Marya 12 and Nader 9. Mazen is the brother of Suheila, the mother of the first Syrian Refugee Family sponsored by CCDP.

The family is living in an apartment in Flemingdon Park and all four kids are in school. Because of the ages of the children, there are three different schools which means a great deal of detail but the two oldest girls are in the same school as their cousin, Suheila's daughter. There have been many dentist and doctor's appointments along with school registrations but all is well in hand.

The parents, Mazen and Chirin, are in full-time English classes and very eager to expand their knowledge of English. The family is delighted to be in Canada, is adjusting well to winter and is enthusiastic and engaged.

Many, many thanks to CCDP for tremendous financial support and for the gifts of furniture etc. The system of the Canadian government is different than it was when the first family arrived four years ago so the flights will still have to be paid for and the cost of that has yet to arrive.

The on-going support of and relationship with CCDP is much cherished.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*John Godfrey*  
*Chair*

## OUTREACH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE/ ADVOCACY

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### *Community Breakfast*

In our 12<sup>th</sup> year, we continue to run Saturdays, 8-9:30am, year round. Serving a hot breakfast to 35+ guests, 3-4 times a month. All walks of life and from all over the city, no questions asked, come and enjoy good food and fellowship, in a safe, welcoming place. Currently we are handing out, winter coats, boots, scarves, left over from the fall Rummage Sale.

### *Churches on the Hill Foodbank*

Our numbers continue to go up, an increase over last year of approx 10%.

At Christmas we welcomed donations for the Christmas hamper which was an additional hamper, to our client's regular hamper.

We purchase over 60% of the food with the rest coming from donations from food drives, companies, individuals (our collection box in the atrium) and Daily Bread. The food of the month notice in the bulletin allows people to focus on a food item when they are shopping.

Our largest fund raiser is the annual Carol Sing at Yorkminster Park with all donations going to our foodbank. Although the foodbank does not receive any financial assistance from the church directly, we are well supported by volunteers.

he food drive for the COTH Foodbank is held in the spring over two weekends. This food drive originally started at Deer Park United, was held in the fall. It was moved to the spring time, as although the food is welcome all year round, we found due to numerous drive runs by business, communities, and agencies in the fall/ Christmas, and we should try the spring with great success the first year.

The Information Centre, continues to help all the clients with additional services needed other than food (medical, housing, education, legal) and proves to be a huge asset to the foodbank.

### *Yorkminster Park Meals on Wheels*

We are a founding member of Yorkminster Park Meals on Wheels, with many volunteers continuing to be involved as board members, drivers, and runners. In the past we have supported them financially.

### *Yorkminster Park Out of the Cold*

A notice in the bulletin brought in 3 volunteers for the Wednesday overnight. As they were open Christmas Day and New Years Day we provided soup for their guests.

We met with Flemingdon Park Ministry in the spring to hear of ways we might assist them. We are looking at sponsoring the Food and Friendship Dinner in the fall.

We are looking at workshops on de-escalation, mental health and first aid for our volunteers at the breakfast program here and at Calvin.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Anne Larkin, Ann Atkins, Melissa Walter  
Committee*

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

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The Property Committee is responsible for providing guidance to Management with regard to property issues, and to ensure that approved work is properly implemented.

The current members of the committee are Andrew van Nostrand, Paul Marritt, Arthur Huycke, Andrew Harding, Brad Lennon and Walter Blackwell.

During 2019, the committee concentrated on two areas:

- 1) Water issues
  - a) The replacement of the eave trough and edge of the roof on the north side of the Nave, which was approved in 2018 but couldn't be completed then due to poor weather, was completed in 2019.
  - b) A persistent water leak between the Bell Tower and the Chapel developed, and a small area of the roof was replaced and some temporary re-pointing of the Bell Tower masonry was done. Proper re-pointing of the west face of the Bell Tower could not be completed due to inclement weather, and is being proposed for 2020.
- 2) Exterior wood doors
  - a) The architect completed the documents for the handicap access of the exterior doors and their general improvement.
  - b) The work was tendered and D.J. McRae was chosen to do the work. Work was essentially completed in October
  - c) Yonge Street entrance
    - i) New wood doors and doorframes with glass panels were installed.
    - ii) An automatic opener was installed for ease of opening.
    - iii) The handrails were repaired.
  - d) Bell Tower entrance
    - i) New wood doors with glass panels were installed.
    - ii) The existing doorframes were refinished.
    - iii) An automatic opener was installed for ease of opening.
  - e) All other exterior wood doors
    - i) All existing exterior wood doors were refinished and their proper operation ensured.
- 3) Concrete pavement at the Yonge Street Entrance
  - a) The existing concrete slab between the steps and the city sidewalk had deteriorated, creating a safety hazard.
  - b) This slab was replaced with new concrete.

The committee has prepared a list of capital projects proposed for 2020, including estimated costs and priorities. This list has been submitted to Management for their consideration. The most important projects included are:

- 1) Top priority
  - a) Re-pointing of the west face of the Bell Tower.
  - b) Repairing the roof of the Narthex.
  - c) Installing handrails at the Yonge Street entrance at the single step up from the sidewalk.
  - d) Adjustment of new Bell Tower doors and the exit door at the north west corner of the Nave to ensure their proper operation.
- 2) Second priority
  - a) Roof repair over the North East exit and stairwell.
  - b) Replace carpets in the basement corridor and the main floor offices.
  - c) Paint basement corridor walls, trim and ceiling.
  - d) Repair and touch up the paint in Elliott Hall.

- e) New pavement and curbs over the old coal storage room and along the south edge of the parking area.
- 3) Lower priority
  - a) Various cosmetic items that are very desirable but not critical.
  - b) Replacement of the speakers in the sound system in the nave.

The current 10 Year Capital Plan was created in 2013. Although actual capital expenditures frequently differed from the plan, it is felt that this plan was very useful in maintaining an awareness of the importance of maintaining the building. This year the committee will be starting to look into how and when the next 10 Year Capital Plan can best be developed.

All members of the committee are thanked for their contributions throughout the year.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Walter Blackwell*  
*Chair*

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## RUMMAGE SALES

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The rummage sales of 2019 saw generous donations that included anything that you would find in a household, some of which we saved to sell at the Holy and Holly Christmas Festival including Christmas decorations, Treasure's room, hand knitting, fine linens, brand new items and silent auction items.

The total amount made from the fall and spring rummage sales was \$18,026.00. Leftovers from the sale were donated to the Children's Wish Foundation that weighs the goods and gives us .12 cents a pound for them under 2000 lbs and .15 cents a pound for them over 2000 lbs. This amounted to 2502 lbs. at .15 per pound \$375.30 from the spring sale and 1723 lbs at  $x .12 = \$206.76$  from the fall sale.

Some of the donations such as winter coats, boots, hats and mittens are given to people who came in off the street needing them.

The spring rummage sale is May 9, 2020 and the fall sale will be October 3, 2020.

The rummage sales would not be possible if it weren't for our many generous volunteers who spent hours, pricing, sorting, setting up, dismantling, advertising, providing security, cashier and customer sales and snacks for the sale. Volunteers are always welcome.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Laura Kuca*  
*Coordinator*

## HOLY AND HOLLY CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

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Holy and Holly Christmas Festival - Saturday November 23, 2019 This was the fourth year of our redesigned Christmas Fair which incorporated a more faith-based Christmas festival. This festival included fun activities for children in a Bethlehem market setting, carol singing in the chapel with a guest guitarist, nativity story puppet shows, the basket raffle draw, the Camel Café, as well as an amazing silent auction. And the jewellery table, Treasures Room, Christmas rummage, and Re-gifting table drew a crowd of bargain-hunters once again. And the Bake Shoppe was very successful selling Christmas cakes and dozens of shortbread cookies and treats.

On the day we had over 65 volunteers and approximately 250 attendees and we raised approximately \$11,800.

New this year - we hosted some guest tables. St James Cathedral sold felt stars to raise money for their drop-in program. And Hanen and Nagham Al Kahdri, two daughters from our newly arrived refugee family, came to sell bracelets that they made. In addition, we tested the concept of hosting a vendor selling hand made goods as Nidhi Sachdeva came to sell her soaps and bath products. Another experiment - Oriole Nursery school, which rents space in our building, participated by hosting a tent and providing activities for toddlers. They were appreciative of the opportunity to showcase their school and recruit new students. And the new photo board cut and painted by Andrew Harding and Andrew Colman was a big hit!

This festival comes together with hard work from so many people. Thanks to: Laura Kuca and her team who sort rummage all year long and set aside items for the Treasures Room and the Christmas Festival; Sandy Crane and Ursula Cosford who carefully sort and price jewellery; Anne Larkin for cheerfully organizing the Camel Café (and for serving the Community Breakfast all in the same morning!!); Norma Ross for recruiting bakers and organizing the Bake Shoppe; Andrew Colman for setting up the Bethlehem Market; Caroline Van Nostrand for pulling together a wonderful silent auction and serving on the organizing committee; and to Debbie Wilkenson on the organizing committee and always ready to lend a helping hand. And special thanks to Paul, Elisabeth and Denis who make this event run smoothly every year.

I organized my first Christmas Fair in 2012 and this 2019 Fair was my last. It has been a pleasure to meet so many people and work together in sharing Christmas with our community. Interested in being part of the Christmas organizing team for 2020? Please speak to a warden to volunteer.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Barbara Johnston*  
*Coordinator*

## 2019 ATTENDANCE STATISTICS

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Service	Total Attendance	Average Weekly (total divided by 52)
8:00 am	1,185 (2018 – 1,216)	23 (2018 -23)
10:00 am	6,234 (2018 – 6,467)	120 (2018 -124)
Afternoon	2,300 (2018 – 2,119)	42 (2018 -42)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,719 (2018 – 9,802)</b>	<b>185 (2018 – 188)</b>

Number of people in church at Easter Vigil/Easter Day (3 services) = **436** (2018-451)

Number of people in church on Christmas Eve/Day (4 services) = **577** (2018-533)

Average attendance at the Wednesday 7:30 am Eucharist = **15** (2018-15)

Average attendance at Church on Tap = **33** (2018- 31)

Average attendance at Jazz Vespers = **121** (2018-112)

**Average Sunday attendance (includes all Sunday services) = 185 (2018-188)**

**Average weekly attendance (all services except wedding & funerals) = 228 (2018-234)**



**FINANCIAL MOTIONS**

**Motion #1**

Moved by: Nick Strube

Seconded by:

That the Vestry accept the Audited 2019 Financial Statements as prepared by Maureen A. Parry Professional Corporation.

**Motion #2**

Moved by: Nick Strube

Seconded by:

That the Vestry appoints Maureen A. Parry Professional Corporation as Auditors for the 2020 Fiscal Year.

**Motion #3**

Moved by: Nick Strube

Seconded by:

That the Vestry accepts the 2020 Operating Budget as presented.

**WOODCOCK FUND MOTION**

Moved by: Franck Perrin

Seconded by

**Background:**

1. The Woodcock Fund was established many years ago. In 1954 the legacy of Canon Woodcock, a former Rector at CCDP (1922-1948), bequeathed \$9,000 to CCDP. The wardens went to some effort to ensure that the bequest was not encumbered by any conditions. It was not.
2. In 1958 Vestry approved a motion establishing the Canon Woodcock Memorial Fund “to assist in the education of deserving theological students proceeding to ordination in the Anglican Church of Canada”. At some point the decision was made that no additional donations were permitted into the Fund and the income earned was to be available for education.
3. In 1975 Canon Davis reviewed the Fund and proposed that it also be used for the benefit of students pursuing a post graduate degree
4. To our knowledge this Fund was never or seldom used by parishioners over the ensuing years. At one point two parishioners, Pat Murdoch and Jenny Rieger (both former wardens), were appointed to oversee payments from the Fund. Pat Murdoch has since died and Jenny Rieger is no longer a member of the Parish. As there was little or no use of the Fund in the 80’s and 90’s the Church for years had the practice of providing two \$1,000 scholarships to students from Wycliffe and Trinity Colleges at the University of Toronto. The

churchwardens ended this practice in 2008 as there was no connection to CCDP and it was determined that the Fund should be used for a broader definition of Christian education within the Parish. To our knowledge the most recent amounts disbursed from the Fund were: \$1,000 in 2009 to Samantha Caravan, Associate Priest at CCDP, to attend a conference; \$9,000 in 2014 to Douglas Graydon, Associate Priest at CCDP, to cover a portion of his salary; and \$2,200 in 2016 to Kevin Robertson, Rector, to attend a conference.

5. No one is actively overseeing the Fund at this time.
6. Even with no additional contributions the value of the Fund has increased to approximately \$79,194. The Fund is now pooled with other CCDP monies (1870 Fund, Endowment Fund) and managed by the CCDP Investment Committee as part of the Christ Church Deer Park Trust Fund. Capital appreciation and any monies earned by the Fund continue to accumulate in the Fund.
7. With no one responsible for administering the Woodcock Fund it has drifted from the original intended purpose. The disbursements mentioned above were appropriate but could have easily been paid for out of general church revenues. The Fund is not being used as originally intended and does not appear to serve any purpose.

Note: We were assisted in the preparation of this note by former warden David Thornton. His conclusion on the Fund was “....the Woodcock Fund is a creature of Vestry and Vestry can do whatever it pleases with the Fund.”.

## **Motion**

Be it resolved, that the Vestry of Christ Church Deer Park approves the termination of the Woodcock Fund and the assets to be transferred to the 1870 Fund.

## DIOCESAN SOCIAL JUSTICE MOTION 2020

Moved by Phyllis Creighton  
Seconded by Brad Lennon

### **Backgrounder – Taking Action on Climate Change**

Climate change is already disrupting life on Earth as we know it. Average global temperatures have already increased 1 degree Celsius over pre-industrial levels, bringing about melting glaciers and polar ice caps, rising seas, deadly heatwaves, and more intense storms. Canada is warming twice as fast as the rest of the world, and the Arctic region, three times as fast, with permafrost thawing 70 years ahead of projections<sup>1</sup>. Even in southern Canada, climate change impacts such as more intense storms, flooding, greater occurrence and severity of wildfires, and hotter, dryer summers, have become the new normal.<sup>2</sup> Ocean levels are rising, and oceans are getting warmer and more acidic, resulting in the decimation of fisheries stocks and threatening “100-year floods” on an annual basis.<sup>3</sup> Lakes, too, are warming, with Lake Superior one of the fastest-warming lakes in the world.<sup>4</sup>

Seasonal shifts disrupt wildlife breeding and migration, and insect pests that used to be controlled by long, cold winters are increasing their range and activity, leading to impacts on forests, agricultural crops, and the spread of disease.

The human costs of climate change affect low-income people most, as they have fewer resources to protect themselves or recover from a disaster, but the costs are borne by all of us. The July 2013 storm that caused flash flooding across the GTA resulted in \$850 million in property damages, making it the costliest natural disaster in provincial history<sup>5</sup>.

If we were able to maintain global temperatures at this level, it would be challenge enough. But we are on track for much more devastating impacts. In October of 2018, the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued a report warning that “Climate-related risks to health, livelihoods, food security, water supply, human security, and economic growth are projected to increase with global warming of 1.5 C and increase further with 2 C.” Furthermore, the report cautions that “limiting global warming to 1.5 C ... require[s] rapid and far-reaching transitions in energy, land, urban and infrastructure, and industrial systems... [and] can only be achieved if global C02 emissions start to decline well before 2030.”<sup>6</sup> This leaves us only a decade to bring about the transitions we need. The time to act is now.

While the Canadian House of Commons and over 50 municipalities in Canada, including at least 8 within our Diocese (as of October 15, 2019) have joined over a thousand jurisdictions worldwide in declaring a climate emergency, the federal government’s current climate policies would not even achieve its Paris Accord commitment of a 30% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from 2005 levels by 2030.

One of the challenges facing us as Canadians is that our Canadian economy and infrastructure are heavily dependent on the extraction and use of oil, gas, and, to a lesser extent, coal. Transitioning to a lower-carbon economy is not a simple matter. For that very reason, however, it is crucial that all sectors of Canadian society, including governments, business and financial systems, as well as churches and other faith and community organizations, work together to address the challenge. Federal and provincial subsidies of the oil and gas industry add up to billions of dollars annually – money that could be invested in energy efficiency, renewable infrastructure, skills retraining for oil and gas sector workers, and climate change mitigation and adaptation for vulnerable Canadians.<sup>7</sup>

Government and financial experts are starting to recognize transition to a low-carbon economy as an economic imperative. The federally-appointed Expert Panel on Sustainable Finance delivered its final report in June 2019, acknowledging the need to “directly decouple economic growth from emissions.”<sup>8</sup> More recently, the CEO of one of the world’s largest fund managers called climate change a “defining factor” for companies’ long-term prospects.<sup>9</sup>

With the window for transition closing rapidly, it is time for Canadians to send a clear signal to our government to align its financial practices with its climate goals. At the same time, we acknowledge that we, as church bodies and as individuals, also have a key role to play.

This past July, General Synod passed Resolution C003 recognizing a global climate emergency, encouraging dioceses, parishes and all members of the Anglican Church of Canada to make the Baptismal Covenant and fifth Mark of Mission a priority, and urging Anglicans to collaborate with other Canadian faith communities to strengthen our voices on climate change. This past September, millions of people worldwide joined student-led protests calling for climate action. In November, our Diocesan Synod passed a motion calling for the development of comprehensive environmental policies to reduce the Diocese’s carbon footprint and environmental impact more generally.<sup>10</sup>

This year’s Vestry Motion invites parishes to consider ways to reduce their own environmental footprint. A range of suggested options for action have been provided. Some parishes in our Diocese have already taken significant steps in this regard, pursuing energy efficient retrofits of heating, lighting, and insulation. Other possible actions include promoting active and public transportation options, limiting or eliminating single-use plastic products, planting trees and/or community gardens, and examining the environmental impact of one’s investments. (The Investing With a Mission resource from the Responsible Investment Task Force of the Anglican Church of Canada may provide helpful guidance in this regard.) Parishes are free to choose from among these actions, or to commit to another goal, which makes sense in their particular context.

As Christians, we understand ourselves as entrusted with the needs of our neighbours (Matthew 25:31-46) and the care of God’s creation (Genesis 2:15). Addressing climate change will take commitment from every sector of our society: governments, businesses, churches, community organizations, and individuals. Let us encourage our governments, and each other, to take up the challenge.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/arctic-permafrost-thawing-early-1.5179760>

<sup>2</sup> [https://changingclimate.ca/site/assets/uploads/sites/2/2019/04/CCCR\\_FULLREPORT-EN-FINAL.pdf](https://changingclimate.ca/site/assets/uploads/sites/2/2019/04/CCCR_FULLREPORT-EN-FINAL.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/3/2019/09/SROCC\\_SPM\\_HeadlineStatements.pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/3/2019/09/SROCC_SPM_HeadlineStatements.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/thunder-bay/lake-superior-fast-warming-1.5277713?fbclid=IwAR0qml9axTf47Ud5T3\\_X1VAJl7OIEYRC0z4RgFCp9Pa8fv5TnhXf1YNVoM](https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/thunder-bay/lake-superior-fast-warming-1.5277713?fbclid=IwAR0qml9axTf47Ud5T3_X1VAJl7OIEYRC0z4RgFCp9Pa8fv5TnhXf1YNVoM)

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.thestar.com/business/2013/08/14/july\\_flood\\_ontarios\\_most\\_costly\\_natural\\_disaster.html](https://www.thestar.com/business/2013/08/14/july_flood_ontarios_most_costly_natural_disaster.html)

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/2/2019/06/SR15\\_Headline-statements.pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/2/2019/06/SR15_Headline-statements.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.iisd.org/faq/unpacking-canadas-fossil-fuel-subsidies/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/expert-panel-sustainable-finance.html>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-blackrock-to-adjust-investing-approach-to-address-climate-change-risks/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/2019/11/10/highlights-from-day-2-of-synod-4/>

## Motion

We, the vestry of Christ Church, Deer Park, in the Diocese of Toronto, recognize that there is a global climate emergency. We acknowledge that all sectors of society, including government, business, churches and other non-profit organizations, and private individuals, have an obligation to do what they can to minimize their contribution to climate change.

Therefore,

Be it resolved that Christ Church Deer Park call on the government of Canada to commit to the following:

- End public financing of the fossil fuel industry (oil, gas, coal)
- Bring Canada's climate and energy policy into alignment with the Paris Accord emissions targets to do our part to limit the rise in global average temperatures below 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- Support a just transition to a low-carbon economy through investment in renewable energy sources and infrastructure, energy-efficient technologies, and skills development and retraining for high-quality, sustainable jobs in the renewable energy sector.
- Assist Indigenous, northern, and coastal communities, and other vulnerable populations, to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change on their local environments.

And also commit the parish to the following goals:

- Complete the energy audit underway (inspection and analysis of the energy efficiency of our church building and operations) to minimize energy waste. To be undertaken by a professional green auditor, the audit should create a recommended "to-do" list for tackling problem areas, with simple, cost effective measures to significantly improve building sustainability, and provide the quickest, best financial return on investment. It should also focus on the congregation's comfort and health, and the way each space in the building is utilized.
- Enrol our parish in an energy benchmarking program, using the completed energy audit as a baseline for setting yearly goals to lower energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. Benchmarking this usage will provide an objective, reliable annual report on the parish energy use and the benefits of improvements being made. It will make our membership and other building occupants more aware of energy efficiency, and thus may effect behavioural changes. Cutting down on energy waste and capturing the savings through sound energy management/conservation efforts will free up money for other budget items.

## MOTION ON SAME SEX MARRIAGE IN THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF TORONTO

Moved by Su Laine Varkey

Seconded by Robert Hutchison

### **Background**

While the motion to change Canon XXI on Marriage was defeated in the summer of 2019 at the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, the Diocese of Toronto is currently in the process of revising its guidelines on same sex marriage to reflect the pastoral needs of its people. The General Synod did, however, vote in favour of a document entitled “A Word to the Church” that affirmed the varied theological approaches to marriage within our denomination and the need to pastorally care for all of God’s people. That document can be found at: <https://www.anglican.ca/news/a-word-to-the-church-considering-the-proposed-amendment-of-marriage-canon-xxi/30023889/>

In November 2016, Archbishop Johnson created a set of pastoral guidelines that have governed the Diocese’s approach to same sex marriage until now. There are currently 27 parishes in the Diocese that are authorized to marry same sex couples. A list of these parishes may be found on the Diocesan website: [www.Toronto.anglican.ca](http://www.Toronto.anglican.ca)

Part of the process for any parish to receive authorization to marry same sex couples is for the Vestry to approve a motion to this end. Therefore, we submit the following motion for Vestry’s consideration and approval:

### **Motion**

Be it resolved, that the parish of Christ Church Deer Park seek the approval of the Diocesan Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil, to become an affirming parish that is approved to marry same sex couples, using the approved rites and liturgies as set forth by the Diocese of Toronto for this purpose.

## **Christ Church Deer Park**

### **The 149th Annual Vestry Meeting** for the year ending December 31, 2018 Held on: Sunday, February 24, 2019

#### MINUTES

1. Motion to adopt agenda, subject to the change that Cheryl Palmer, not Andrew van Nostrand, will speak to the Election of People's Warden, Deputy Warden, and Members of Synod.  
Moved: Jayne Miles Simpson  
Seconded: Carolyn Kearns  
Motion carried.
2. Appointment by the Incumbent of Genevieve Chornenki as vestry clerk.
3. Motion to adopt minutes of Annual Vestry meeting of Sunday, February 25, 2018.  
Moved: William Jackson  
Seconded: Bob Reeves  
Motion carried. There was no business arising from the minutes.
4. Motion to accept 2018 Annual Vestry Report, as printed.<sup>1</sup>  
Moved: Felecia van Nostrand  
Seconded: J.R. Thornton  
Motion carried.
5. In relation to the Trust Committee report on page 14 of the 2018 Annual Vestry Report, Phyllis Creighton formally requested that for next year the committee consider the "Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures" of the Diocese of Toronto, revised as at January 2019 and available on the diocesan website.
6. Report made by the Incumbent, Canon Cheryl Palmer,
  - a. Identifying music as a particularly important ministry that enhances worship, "is a known tool of evangelism," and has the capacity to comfort, affirm, and heal
  - b. Identifying outreach as another important ministry and explaining that money is budgeted for existing initiatives such as the community breakfasts, the refugee support committee, and the truth and reconciliation working group, but that unless there are other named outreach programs there is no need to increase the budget
  - c. Thanking clergy and staff: Robert Gorham, Cathy Gibbs, Andrew Holman, Matthew Otto, Paul Marritt, Elisabeth Lunder, Amanda Lowry, Denis Delisle, the custodians and the honorary assistants.
  - d. Reminding parishioners that 2020 would be the 150th anniversary of the parish and indicating the need to develop a Sesquicentennial Committee that would plan celebrations.

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<sup>1</sup> The vestry clerk subsequently received a copy of the report of the Screening in Faith Ministry (attached), which report had not been received in time to be included in the 2018 Annual Vestry Report.

7. Report made by the Rector's Warden, Andrew van Nostrand,
  - a. Highlighting four key initiatives described on page 8 of the 2018 Annual Vestry Report, namely Parish Governance and Advisory Board, Christian Education and Programming, Outreach and Community Involvement, and Parish Visioning and Strategic Planning
  - b. Thanking all parish volunteers on behalf of the management team
  - c. Thanking the outgoing members of management team, Rick Varkey, George Lewis, and Barbara Johnston.
  - d. Reporting in respect of the property committee that
    - i. Walter Blackwell who is the committee chair is looking for an alternative chair
    - ii. The parish had received a grant from the Diocese of Toronto to increase accessibility and make modifications to the doors at the Bell Tower and on Yonge Street
    - iii. An expert report indicated that the parish could expect ten more years out of the slate roof
    - iv. Remediation and preventative work was being done in the basement of the church building
    - v. Some "superficial" remediation would be done to the interior of the church building; and
    - vi. 2022 will be the 100th anniversary of the church building.
  - e. Emphasizing in relation to the parish visioning process the need to grow the parish and understand how to be relevant to the community.
8. Report made by Jill McRae in respect of the Visioning Process,
  - a. Describing how a subcommittee was investigating ways to engage with and contribute to the community on an ongoing basis
9. Financial Report for 2018. The Treasurer made a report on parish finances that highlighted what had been presented at the Financial Forum two weeks previously. In particular he
  - a. Explained that congregational givings were up by 8 percent over the previous year, resulting in an overall increase in total givings
  - b. Noted that parish had begun the year with a projected deficit of \$88,000 but ended the year with a \$17,257 surplus.
10. Motion to accept the December 31, 2018, financial statements as audited by Maureen A. Parry, CPA, CA.  
Moved: Rick Varkey  
Seconded: Walter Blackwell  
Motion carried.
11. Motion to appoint Maureen A. Parry Professional Corporation as auditor for the 2019 fiscal year.  
Moved: Rick Varkey  
Seconded: William Jackson  
Motion carried.



12. Operating Budget for 2019. The Treasurer introduced the operating budget for 2019, highlighting what had been presented at the Financial Forum two weeks previously and indicating that it represented best estimates for revenue and expenses in the upcoming year. He then responded to questions from members of vestry. In particular, he
- Explained that expenses were projected to increase due to additional personnel costs such as the salary of a full time associate priest who would start in May 2019
  - Explained that the diocesan assessment would be increased in 2019 because a favourable year (2014) was no longer in the 3-year average used to compute the annual assessment
  - Indicated that the revenue projections do not include the annual “top ups” that typically occur at year end, nor do they include any bequests
  - Confirmed an observation from the floor that most of the 364 people on the parish list give less than \$100.00 per year to the parish; and
  - Assured vestry that \$25,000 for refugee work is reflected in the 2018 balance sheet but not in the 2019 operating budget because there are no specific plans to use the money and money is not assigned unless and until it is known how and for what it would be used.
13. Motion to accept the 2019 Operating Budget as presented in the 2019 Narrative Budget.  
Moved: Rick Varkey  
Seconded: William Jackson  
Motion carried.
14. Acknowledgement, thanks, and farewells given to outgoing members of management team, Barbara Johnston, George Lewis, and Rick Varkey, and to the outgoing chair of stewardship, Bob Hutchison, on behalf of the parish for their service over the past years to parish governance and ministry.
15. Appointment by the Incumbent, Canon Cheryl Palmer, of the following parishioners
- Andrew van Nostrand as Rector’s Warden
  - Nick Strube as Treasurer.
16. Nomination of by the parish nominating committee of Deborah Wilkinson as People’s Warden, and Ward Lindsey and Donald Bedard as Deputy Wardens.  
Motion to close nominations.  
Moved: J.R. Thornton  
Seconded: Dierdre Malone  
Motion carried. There being no other nominations, election by acclamation of Deborah Wilkinson as People’s Warden, and Ward Lindsey and Donald Bedard as Deputy Wardens.
17. Nomination of Su Varkey, William Jackson, and George Lewis as Lay Member of Synod.  
Moved: Robert Gorham  
Seconded: Barbara Johnston  
There being no other nominations, election by acclamation of Su Varkey, William Jackson, and George Lewis as Lay Member of Synod.
18. Nomination of Ann Atkins as alternate Lay Member of Synod who would attend in the absence of one of the elected members.

Moved: Robert Gorham

Seconded: Barbara Johnston

There being no other nominations, election by acclamation of Ann Atkins as alternate Lay Member of Synod.

19. Appointment by the Incumbent, Canon Cheryl Palmer, of Kathleen Lindsey as appointed member of the parish Advisory Council.

20. Nomination of Cheryl Bedard as elected member of the parish Advisory Counsel.

Moved: William Jackson

Seconded: Caroline van Nostrand

There being no other nominations, Cheryl Bedard elected by acclamation to the parish Advisory Council.

21. Motion concerning Diocesan Social Justice & Advocacy Vestry Motion 2018, “Standing in Solidarity”

***Because we follow Jesus Christ as Lord, who preached good news to the poor, who declared that whatever we do for those who lack food, drink or clothing, the sick, the stranger, and the prisoner, we do for Him, and who commands us to love our neighbours as ourselves,***

***And because our baptismal covenant calls us to seek and serve Christ in all persons, to strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being,***

***We, the vestry of the parish of Christ Church Deer Park, commit to standing in solidarity with those living in poverty by taking the following actions:***

*1) Increasing our direct outreach activity by researching and pursuing options to expand our outreach in the neighbourhood and beyond, with a report on results to the 2020 vestry,*

*and*

*2) Increasing our advocacy by building alliances with groups providing and working for housing for all, and by standing in solidarity with Indigenous people whose treaty and other rights are under threat and working to support justice for them.*

Moved: Melissa Lynne Walter

Seconded: Cathy Giordia

Motion carried.

22. Service of Commissioning for Lay Ministries as per printed order of service (page 38 of 2018 Vestry Report).

23. The agenda having been completed, the meeting terminated.

## Service of Commissioning for Lay Ministries

Priest Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Our purpose is to commission these persons in the Name of God and of this congregation to a special ministry to which they are called.

Sponsors We present to you these persons to be admitted to the ministry of Warden/Committee members/ Member of Synod in this congregation.

*The priest addresses the assembly*

Priest Is it your will that these people fulfil these ministries?

**People It is.**

*The priest addresses the candidates.*

Priest You have been called to a ministry in this congregation. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with care, to the honour of God and the benefit of the Church?

Answer I will.

*The priest addresses the assembly.*

Priest Will you uphold these people in this service?

**People We will.**

Antiphon

Priest *The Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity.*

Priest I am your servant; grant me understanding:

**All That I may know your decrees.**

Priest Let us pray.

Priest *Blessed are you, gracious God, our creator and redeemer. In every age you call people to minister in your name. May the work of these your servants so build up your Church, that they may faithfully serve you and show your love in all the world. Blessed are you, O God, now and forever. Amen.*

*O Eternal God, the foundation of all wisdom and the source of all courage: Enlighten with your grace the Wardens, Committee members and Members of Synod of this congregation, and so rule their minds, and guide their counsels, that in all things they may seek your glory and promote the mission of your Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**All O Lord, without whom our labour is lost: We beseech you to prosper all works in your Church undertaken according to your holy will. Grant to us, your workers, a pure intention, a patient faith, sufficient success on earth, and the blessedness of serving you in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

